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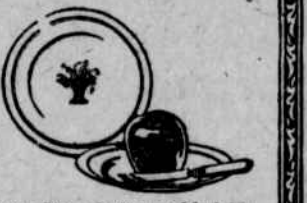
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## QUEBEC ELECTION HINGES ON LIQUOR

Provincials Face Price Situation of Vital Interest.

### PUBLIC WANTS SHARE

Tremendous Profits Made by Government Cause of Much Envy.

### NATIVES DRINK BEER

Bootleggers Pay for Whisky That Canadians Cannot Afford.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

MONTREAL, Dec. 12.—The provincial Government of Quebec is facing an election on the liquor question and the outcome of the contest will give as much concern to some folks in New York as to the Canadians. The real issue to be decided will be the price of whisky sold by the Government through the crown's commission. This liquor offers the main source of supply for the American bootlegger.

Administration of the liquor law is being challenged through the provinces and it is understood the Government, of which Premier Taschereau is the head, has decided to risk an early election. The officials evidently believe it would be wiser to have the contest out of the way rather than wait for further growth of the opposition.

Quebec, under the crown's charter grants, has absolute autonomy in deciding its liquor and all other sumptuary laws. All the other provinces and the whole British Government combined cannot vote Quebec dry if Quebec itself votes wet. There is no question about the province staying wet. What the opposition wants is to make it a little wetter, not drier, and, further, that the public be permitted to share the golden harvest of the American bootlegger's dollars.

While the issue will not be framed quite so badly and boldly, the fact is that the election will be to determine whether the Government is to keep the tremendous profits pouring into the province through the illicit whisky trade with the States, or return to commercial sales under Government supervision so that the public may get into the business and make money.

The Government is making millions annually out of the trade. The law makes the Government the recognized distributor and salesman of all liquors. The business is carried on through commissions which regulate the importation, sales, prices and other details. All kinds of distilled liquors, brews and wines from England, Scotland, Ireland and France are handled through the commission's stores. The law allows unlimited sale of beer and wine, but restricts the distribution of whisky to "one bottle at a time." It is possible to go into the store many times, so that in reality this supply is unlimited.

Under the original law sales were conducted by the public with Government supervision. An agent was stationed in each liquor store. Irregularities were charged. Whisky was cheaper and there was more drunkenness. The Government now has its own officials in charge of each of the commission's stores.

Quebec Very Prosperous.

Quebec has been shooting ahead of the other provinces, which have been watching this new prosperity with envious eyes. There are reports that wet sentiment is spreading and that some of the other provinces may swing back. Officials in charge of the liquor administration are getting big salaries. The province is building more and better roads and other improvements than the others. It is reaching a state of affluence never dreamed of.

Opposition to the Government charges that the commission in its eagerness to make money is getting too much for whisky. The price at the stores has been from \$2.75 to \$4.50 for rye and Scotch. In order to get that much from the American bootlegger it is necessary to charge the Canadian the same price and the latter, with his average wage of \$2 to \$2.50 a day, cannot afford to pay it.

As a result, the local consumption of whisky and brandy has been reduced to a minimum, while the sale to the bootlegger for the State trade has reached big proportions. The native drinks ale and wine, which he can get without restriction. But he does not like the idea of having the whisky pass him and be unable to touch it because of the high prices, which are made necessary only because of the official desire to swell the public treasury.

Complaint is made also that the distillers are making too much. There are untold and unconfirmed reports, heard quite often, that certain officials have great opportunity for private trafficking in enormous amounts of liquor and the opposition is continually inquiring how the imports and sales compare.

### Sore on Government.

The liquor dealer who has been shut out of the legitimate business, and who has been compelled to turn bootlegger or go to work, is one of the chief agitators for return to the system which will permit him to sell instead of the Government. He contends that the change would mean cheaper whisky. If there were a change in the law the Government would still retain strict supervision.

There is also a growing moral resentment among some classes against having their Government engaged in liquor trafficking. It is known that a large part of the whisky put out by the commission's stores is going to the bootlegger to be smuggled across the New York border in violation of the American law. There are those who insist the profits, big as they are, do not compensate for the reaction of this illicit trade on the public.

Boys between the ages of 17 and 22 have been drawn by the hundreds into the liquor trade: drawn by the lure of quick and easy money. Young men have given up their positions in stores, factories, banks and offices to help the Canadian jobber in the daily task of procuring his cargo of whisky for transportation to the border; to drive a sleigh or automobile and eventually to steal an automobile and go into the business himself. There are many such cases. One young man who gave up his post in a bank in Valleyfield to learn the rum trade was arrested recently. He came from a fine family.

## Court Returns Liquor to Convicted Bootlegger

THIRTY cases of whisky and an automobile truck seized more than a year ago yesterday were ordered returned to Anthony Cassese, alleged millionaire bootlegger, under sentence of two years' imprisonment and a fine of \$10,000 for violating the Volstead law. Judge Harmon B. Howe of Vermont, sitting in United States Court at Brooklyn, entered the order for return of the seized goods.

Judge Howe tried the case, in which Mary White, Cassese and others were charged with conspiracy to violate the national prohibition act. The whisky and truck were ordered returned after Cassese and the other defendants had been acquitted of that charge.

## PARLEY ON DRY LAW IS SET FOR JANUARY

President to Issue Call to Governors Early in the Month.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York, Dec. 12.—The conference of State Governors to be called by President Harding to consider ways of enforcement of the prohibition amendment and Volstead act will take place here in January, probably near the end of the month. The President expects to issue the call early in the month.

Coincident with this announcement there was an unexpected flareup in the Senate which threw new light on the situation with which the conference will deal.

In the debate on the Treasury appropriation bill Senator Broussard (La.) made a frontal attack on the Anti-Saloon League. He quoted Dr. Parley A. Baker, general superintendent of the league, as stating recently in New Orleans that 20 per cent. of the Federal judges should be in the penitentiary at hard labor or impeached for violations of the dry laws.

He quoted Wayne B. Wheeler, general counsel of the league, to the effect that the percentage of prohibition agents killed on duty is greater than the percentage of American soldiers slain during the war. Senator Broussard quoted Dr. Baker as saying:

"These scoundrels who sit on the bench, and I use the term advisedly, are drunkards themselves. I hold them responsible for the shooting down of prohibition law enforcement officers during the last year."

Senator Broussard then said: "Now it seems to me that no man holding a responsible position has a right to say that 20 per cent. of the Federal judges and call them scoundrels and drunkards. If that is assisting in creating respect for the law, then I am much mistaken."

### ANTI-SALOON LEAGUE PREPARES MORE BILLS

Outlines Demands to Be Made on State Legislatures.

The Anti-Saloon League of New York issued a statement last night, signed by David James Burrell as president and George Caldwell Moore as secretary, saying that at a recent meeting of the Board of Directors the following legislative program for the coming session of the Legislature at Albany was adopted:

"To endeavor to secure the passage of (1) the enabling triplets, three bills to authorize cities, villages and towns to enact ordinances in aid of the enforcement of any statute of the State or of the United States; (2) the Hooch-Murder bill, making a person who sells what purports to be drinkable alcoholic liquor which kills the purchaser, punishable for murder.

"To oppose: (1) the repeal of the Mullan-Gage State enforcement code; (2) the passage of any resolution which falsely and unfairly represents the people of the State of New York as in favor of modification of the Volstead act; (3) the submission of any sham referendum which amounts merely to a straw vote and binds nobody and nothing.

### COURT FINES SIX MEN BUT DOUBTS GUILT

Attorney Pays \$2,100 Levied in Liquor Case.

After telling the prisoners he did not believe they were guilty of the charges upon which they were convicted, William F. Bleakley, County Judge at White Plains, yesterday assessed fines totaling \$2,100 against six seamen from the yacht Bat, recently seized at New Rochelle with a \$50,000 liquor cargo. The fines were paid by Mortimer C. O'Brien, attorney for the prisoners. When O'Brien offered the money, Judge Bleakley asked him whence it came.

"It is my own money," replied O'Brien. "I cannot assume," said Judge Bleakley, "that you are conducting a charitable institution. I believe you men are innocent of the charges. You are tools of men higher up."

### AGENTS MUST DRY UP BROOKLYN OR RESIGN

New Chief Gives Ultimatum as He Starts Drive.

More rigid enforcement of the Volstead law in Brooklyn was ordered yesterday by James S. Green, new chief of the Brooklyn enforcement staff. Dry agents in the department received an ultimatum saying that unless they produced results they would be dropped from the force. Mr. Green succeeded William B. Lord, who becomes a general agent after serving a year as head of the Brooklyn office.

E. C. Yellowley, director for New York State, has promised additional men for the Brooklyn staff. The force, he said, may be increased to twenty-five men within the next two days.

## LIQUOR PLANES TAKE 75 CASES EACH TRIP

Dry Watch Forces Boats on Long Island Coast to Lie Close.

### ARMADA GOING SOUTH

Airmen Alone Successful in Deliveries for Whisky Syndicate.

### SPY SYSTEM ELABORATE

Bootlegger Offers \$4,200 to Girl Operative to Relax Vigilance for Day.

Vessels of the "whisky armada," carrying thousands of cases of Bahama bootleg liquor intended for New York holiday trade gradually are withdrawing their "barrage of bottles" from along the Long Island coast and are cruising southward, hopeful that there they will enjoy better luck in disposing of their contraband cargoes.

Small boats employed, by whisky syndicates to run the dry navy blockade from the "liquor flotilla" to the coast are becoming inactive because of the vigilance of Frank J. Hale and James R. Kerrigan, chief intelligence officers for the Federal Prohibition Enforcement Department. Sloops and dories are anchoring for the winter in the scores of inlets, creeks and slips along the coast in the Great South Bay district.

Accompanied by a reporter from THE NEW YORK HERALD, Hale and Kerrigan yesterday completed a cruise through Long Island waters in search of small vessels attempting to bring in whisky from the "mother fleet," lying in the offing four to seven miles from shore. In automobiles the party ended its survey of bootlegging conditions on Long Island.

Admittedly forestalled in their concerted campaign to swamp the Long Island coast with Christmas wet goods, the whisky syndicates are resorting to the extensive use of seaplanes for bringing their contraband ashore. Two seaplanes, known to be bringing heavy shipments of whisky from the "whisky armada," are stationed near New York. Each craft carries a cargo of seventy-five cases per trip from the fleet of liquor laden vessels.

"Not a single case of whisky has been landed by a boat on Long Island in the last two weeks," Mr. Hale said upon his return from the Long Island cruise. "The fishermen on the coast are not willing to risk the seizure of their boats. They have deserted the whisky syndicates, because they know Federal operatives are sticking close to the little towns on Long Island. With the aid of the Coast Guard Service and the police department we have succeeded in stopping the great flow of Bahama liquor that has been coming into New York. Prohibition enforcement has become a heart-breaking reality to the Long Island bootleggers."

So eager have been the whisky syndicate representatives on Long Island to learn the daily whereabouts of the dry navy boats that they have stationed "lookouts" in each town between New York and the coast. At Far Rockaway yesterday emissaries of the whisky ring sought information from THE NEW YORK HERALD reporter as to where "Hale and Kerrigan are headed."

"Where are you going?" queried a pier lookout as the dry navy boat carrying the party hove off from Far Rockaway. "Going to Freeport? Going to Freeport?"

"Yes," Hale yelled at him, explaining to the party on the boat that this information—which was incorrect—would be "flushed to Freeport before we get out of sight."

Miss Isabel Premm, working with Hale and Kerrigan, received word in Bayshore that the two operatives were "working in Freeport." Joining the party at Long Beach a few hours after the dry navy craft left Far Rockaway, Miss Premm declared she had been offered a bribe if she would "duck out of Bayshore for the day."

"Hale and Kerrigan are in Freeport," the bootlegger is quoted as having said to her. "If you'll get in your car and duck out of Bayshore for the day I'll pay you six dollars a case on 700 cases." Browsing along the creeks at Long Beach late last night the dry agents encountered a number of "boatmen," who willingly chatted about "how dry this coast is getting to be."

Arrival of the dry agents on the bank of a creek two miles from Long Beach was expected. "Lookouts" by means of red lanterns had flashed the news of their approach. Two men with a lantern were awaiting the operatives when their automobile drew up at the "liquor pier."

"Creeks are freezing up," commented one of the men. "Haven't pulled a load in her in a week. This ice knocks us for a goal. We'll have to anchor up for the winter."

From wireless stations controlled by the whisky syndicate men on Long Island instructions apparently have been sent to the "whisky armada" to cruise southward toward Freeport, Fla. The matter of provisioning the vessels in the "liquor flotilla," one "boatman" told the agents, is becoming more acute. "Because we can't slip our dories to sea without being watched."

"That's why the 'mother ships' have got to get to play south," continued the seaman. "The game has become pretty lustrous here. Haven't pulled a load in her in a week. This ice knocks us for a goal. We'll have to anchor up for the winter."

Activities of the prohibition navy next week will be extended to the New Jersey coast, Mr. Hale said. Three new boats sent out provisioned to catch blockade running craft that attempt to bring in cargoes of whisky from the "mother ships," he asserted.

### CLUBS' LIQUOR SUPPLIES LAID TO ONE DEALER

Federal Grand Jury Continues Investigation.

The Federal Grand Jury yesterday continued its examination of witnesses to determine the source from which champagne and whisky is said to have been procured by many fashionable clubs. Five witnesses were examined by John Holley Clarke, Assistant United States Attorney, during the hearings.

Investigation into the clubs was begun, it was hinted by Federal court attaches, after the holding up of a Federal official's application for membership. Many of the members objected to acceptance of a Federal official as a member of the organization.

## START SECRET QUIZ ON STUDENT PARTY

Manasquan Officials Propose to Learn Source of Liquor at Beach Affair.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

MANASQUAN, N. J., Dec. 12.—Yielding to the pressure of paternal indignation, the Town Council here to-night started an investigation to determine the source of liquor alleged to have been consumed by eleven high school students in a "beach party" Saturday night. Veiled in secrecy was the hearing. Not even the parents of the students involved were permitted to enter the room during the course of the preliminary investigation. The only outsiders admitted were Lester Mesrobian, superintendent of the school, the father of one of the girls who was taken home from the party by a patrolman, and John P. Cornelius, the patrolman who, at the behest of persons residing near the beach, broke up the party.

Patrolman Cornelius refused to-night to say definitely that any of the eleven boys and girls who attended the "beach party" actually were intoxicated. Milne Cornelius, his seventeen-year-old son, he said, was a member of the party.

Angered by the publicity that has been given the affair, parents of the students who attended have declined to make any statement regarding the alleged drunkenness of the youths and girls. Refusing to talk about the condition of a girl who was carried home by Patrolman Cornelius, after the other members of the party had fled, John Rice declared that "whisky is being sold almost openly all around here."

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A firm of former wholesale liquor dealers is alleged to be the source of supply for the alleged "liquor parties." Three hundred cases of wine and champagne owned by the firm recently were seized by Federal prohibition enforcement officers. The concern is said to have 27,000 cases of whisky in a bonded warehouse. Much of the liquor, it is alleged, is leaking but at frequent intervals.

### BARTENDER FAILS TO FILE ASSAULT CLAIM

Rachowsky Under Indictment for Alleged Assault.

Stephen Rachowsky, a bartender, struck in the face by John R. Kerrigan, a prohibition agent, for an alleged attempt to walk out of the prohibition prisoners room at the Federal Building, failed to appear yesterday before John M. Cushman, Assistant United States Attorney, to file a complaint against his assailant.

Rachowsky is one of three men alleged to have attacked dry agents William McGay and Peter Reager when they raided his saloon in East Thirty-first street Friday.

### DONEGAN LOCKED UP ON COURT DECISION

Had Appealed Sentence of 10 Years and \$65,000 Fine.

The United States Circuit of Appeals handed down a decision yesterday confirming the conviction of Edward Donegan of \$321 Twelfth street, Brooklyn, who was sentenced to ten years in the Federal prison at Atlanta and to pay a fine of \$65,000 about a year ago, following his conviction of grand larceny.

He was accused of stealing the records in the office of the chief prohibition officer for this district. A bench warrant signed by Judge John C. Knox of the United States District Court was served on Donegan last night, and he was locked up.

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Franklin Simon

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